## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY SUBJECT	Rumania Cost of Liv	ing in Bucharest		DATE DISTR. 18 August 1954 NO. OF PAGES 4
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1. Salaries for industrial workers ranged from 200 to 2,150 lei per month. (Actually to eat and dress properly a worker with two children and wife would need 3,000 to 4,000 lei per month.) Deductions from the salaries for various causes amounted to a total of from 5-10%: 1% for union, 1% for ARLUS, Red Cross, etc.

An unskilled worker 200-300 lei per month. About 60% of the employed were within this range.

A qualified worker earned 350-500 lei per month. About 25-30 % of the employed were included in this range.

A technician of medium grade, but not an executive, got 300-600 lei per month. This salary range included about 10-15% of the employed.

Those receiving above 600 lei per month had to be Party members or activists. These favorites numbered about 5% of the employed.

In the latter category: Technicians, chemists, and engineers received from 600 to 1,200 lei per month. Directors, chiefs, and high officials received above 1,200 lei per month. The maximum net monthly salary was 1,680 lei.

 Salaries for members of teaching staffs in secondary schools ranged from 250 lei to 700 lei per month for teaching at least 18 hours per week.

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Instructors received 200-450 lei per month.

Professors received 400-700 lei per month. (Those who received 700 lei per month had 20-25 years of teaching experience.)

3. A few examples of food and clothing prices will show the difficulty with which all salaried persons had to struggle to survive:

## Food

Bread unrationed cost 2 lei per kilogram of black bread and 4.50 lei per kilogram of white bread.

Beef, any out, 8-10 lei per kilogram, but it was hard to get. On the black market it cost 17-20 lei per kilogram.

Butter - 25-30 lei per kilogram, hard to get; on the black market 40 lei per kilogram.

Poultry 25-40 lei per kilogram.

Salami, 25-30 lei per kilogram.

Potatoes, hard to get, 1.5-2 lei per kilogram.

Wine, hard to get, most ordinary kind cost 8-20 lei per kilogram or liter (good wines were all exported).

Beer a bottle of 500 grams cost 2-3 lei. Also hard to get.

Cheese - 15-25 lei per kilogram.

Sugar - 9.90 lei per kilogram.

Milk - 3-4 lei per liter.

Eggs - 1-1.50 lei each (hard to get)

Oranges - 4-5 lei each.

Salt - 2.40 lei per kilogram.

Canned meat - 11 lei per one-half kilogram can.

Coffee - ground - 60-120 per kilogram.

Canned vegetables (when available) 5-8 lei per one-half kilogram can.

## Clothing

One meter of material woolen (or part wool), domestic, 80-220 lei

One man's felt hat 76-350 lei

One man's shirt 80-300 lei

Cotton socks, pair - 12-30 lei

One man's nacktie 60-120 lei

One pair of leather shoes 150-700 lei

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- 4. Streetcar fare cost a worker 1 lei per day, and 10 cigarettes and a box of matches cost 1 lei.
- 5. Medical and health services were poorly organized and inadequate. A private visit to a physician cost 25-50 lei. Workers went mostly to public clinics where treatment was free of charge. There was a shortage of medicaments, instruments, and other equipment. The doctors were indifferent; their salaries ranged from only 300 to 600 lei per month.
- Garbage was taken care of by ICAS-Interprinderea Comunala. Payment for garbage disposal was calculated according to the space occupied by a house in square meters. The house occupied 150 square meters. Monthly payments for garbage disposal without water supply was 300 lei. Payment for water varied according to the amount consumed.

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- Gas and electricity were supplied by IRED Regional Electrical Enterprise of Bucharest (Interprinderea Regionala de Electricitate Bucurestii) and by the Regional Enterprise for Gas Metan (Interprinderea Regionala de Gaz Metan). Electricity was charged per kilowatt consumption. paid 10 lei per month for electricity in his room. He used 60 watt bulbs. Gas cost 10 bani (cents) per cubic meter.
- 8. Personal services were practically nonexistent. The few families that had servants paid 100-200 lei per month with food. As a bachelor, paid for his laundry, which was done by private washwomen, 30 lei for three weeks of washing. Laundresses engaged by a household were paid 15 lei per day plus food.
  - 9. All barbers were organized in a barbers! co-operative called Hygiea. There were very few independent barbers, perhaps at the cutskirts of the city. In an ordinary barber shop a shave cost 1.50 lei, a haircut 1-3 lei. In a luxury barber shop a shave and haircut cost 7 or 8 lei. A woman's permanent, also in Hygiea, cost 25 to 40 lei.
  - 10. Tickets for opera performances at the Opera de Stat ranged in price from 2t to 20 lei; tickets in Bucharest's various theaters ranged from 2t to 15 lei. Concerts cost from 5 to 20 lei. Movie tickets cost from 1 to 3 lei.
- 11. Eight passport photographs cost 17 lei. Six artistic photographs, six by nine cm., cost 100 lei. A roll of film containing 36 exposures cost 22 lei. Cameras were not available on the market except cld ones, sold privately. They sold for 300 to 500 lei. That is, ordinary Kodak cameras.
- 12. There was a great shortage of hotel rooms and lodgings, so much so that even official CP delegations coming to see ministers could not find rooms. There were three hotel categories. In the first category a single room with bath cost 28 lei in the summertime and 34 lei in the winter. A room in the second category hotel cost 16 lei in summer and 25 in winter. A room in the third category hotel cost 12 lei in summer and 16 lei in winter.

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- 4 -In restaurants a two-course meal cost 10-15 lei without dessert or coffee. On one occasion in a better-type restaurant where he paid 50 lei for two meals, including beer, and desserts. A meal in a workers' restaurant including beer, and desserts. A meal in a workers' restaurant cost 8 lei. Turkish coffee, which people in Rumania drank, cost 3-7 lei per cup. In second and third class restaurants recalls that roast meat was 4-8 lei per portion, and soup 1.5-# lei per portion. In first class restaurants the roast meat, a portion, cost 8-12 lei; and poultry, chicken, etc. cost 15 lei per portion. Lunches served to workers in factories cost 1.50-3 lei. 50X1 50X1

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